

Appl. No. 10/708,750
Response dated November 8, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] Regardless of the drilling method employed, operations of various types are performed throughout the drilling process. For instance, drill pipe sections often become stuck downhole and need to be freed. For example, directional drilling operations, wherein the drillstring is not rotated, have a higher occurrence of stuck drill pipe than traditional rotated drillstring operations. The release of stuck drill pipe is typically performed by sending a string of tools including a free-point indicator down the bore of the drillstring to determine where the pipe is stuck. Once the location is determined, reverse torque is applied to the drillstring and a charge is detonated to break the threaded joints of drill pipe free at the stuck location. With the free pipe disconnected, the remainder of the drillstring can be “fished” out of the wellbore. The ability to maintain the bore and annulus of the drillstring under pressure while the recovery equipment run downhole is highly desirable.

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] Frequently, measurements of formation density, porosity, and permeability are made before a well is drilled deeper or before a change in drilling direction is made. Often, measurements relating to directional surveying are needed to ensure the wellbore is being drilled according to plan. Usually, these measurements and operations can be performed with a measurement while drilling assembly (MWD), whereby the measurements are made in real-time at or proximate to the drill bit and subsequently transmitted to operators at the surface